Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of pre-conditioning an insert for use in injection molding an optical part, comprising:

providing a mold cavity configured for use in injection molding the optical part;

placing the optical part insert in a position resting against a molding surface of the mold cavity; and

heat-soaking the optical part insert without the application of pressure or vacuum to the insert, such that the insert is warmed but does not lose its structural integrity.

Claim 2 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 1, wherein heat-soaking comprises irradiating the insert with energy that is preferentially absorbed by the insert.

Claim 3 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 1, wherein heat-soaking comprises irradiating the insert with infrared energy.

Claim 4 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 3, wherein the infrared energy irradiating the insert comprises broadband infrared energy.

Claim 5 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 3, wherein the infrared energy irradiating the insert is preferentially absorbed by the insert.

Claim 6 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 1, wherein heat-soaking comprises irradiating the insert with microwave energy, ultraviolet energy, or radio frequency energy.

Claim 7 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 1, wherein the insert comprises a polarizer.

Claim 8 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 1, wherein the insert comprises multiple layers.

Claim 9 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 8, wherein the insert comprises a layer having one or more selected optical attributes.

Claim 10 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 8, wherein the insert comprises a layer having an optical attribute selected from the group consisting of polarization, color, photochromism, electrochromism, selective visible transmittance, selective ultraviolet transmittance, selective infrared transmittance, higher refractive index than at least one other layer, and lower refractive index than at least one other layer.

Claim 11 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 8, wherein the insert comprises a layer having one or more selected physical attributes.

Claim 12 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 8, wherein the insert comprises a layer having a physical attribute selected from the group consisting of abrasion resistance, impact resistance, chemical resistance, and mechanical support.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method of pre-conditioning an insert for use in injection molding an optical part with improved replication of ~~a molding surface~~ the injection-molding cavity, comprising:

providing a mold cavity configured for use in injection molding the optical part;

providing an insert having a curvature measurably different from the average curvature of ~~the~~ a molding surface of the mold cavity;

placing the optical part insert in a position resting against the molding surface of the mold cavity; and

heat-soaking the insert without additional application of pressure or vacuum to the insert, such that the insert is warmed but does not lose its structural integrity.

Claim 14 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 13, wherein heat-soaking comprises irradiating the insert with energy that is preferentially absorbed by the insert.

Claim 15 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 13, wherein heat-soaking comprises irradiating the insert with infrared energy.

Claim 16 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 15, wherein the infrared energy irradiating the insert comprises broadband infrared energy.

Claim 17 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 15, wherein the infrared energy irradiating the insert is preferentially absorbed by the insert.

Claim 18 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 13, wherein heat-soaking comprises irradiating the insert with microwave energy, ultraviolet energy, or radio frequency energy.

Claim 19 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 13, wherein the insert comprises a polarizer.

Claim 20 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 13, wherein the insert comprises multiple layers.

Claim 21 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 20, wherein the insert comprises a layer having one or more selected optical properties.

Claim 22 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 20, wherein the insert comprises a layer having an optical attribute selected from the group consisting of polarization, color, photochromism, electrochromism, selective visible transmittance, selective ultraviolet transmittance, selective infrared transmittance, higher refractive index than at least one other layer, and lower refractive index than at least one other layer.

Claim 23 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 20, wherein the insert comprises a layer having one or more selected physical attributes.

Claim 24 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 20, wherein the insert comprises a layer having a physical attribute selected from the group consisting of abrasion resistance, impact resistance, chemical resistance, and mechanical support.

Claim 25 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 13, wherein the insert has a curvature that is steeper than the average curvature of the molding surface.

Claim 26 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 25, wherein the insert has a curvature at least 10% steeper than the average curvature of the molding surface.

Claim 27 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 13, wherein the insert has a curvature that is shallower than the average curvature of the molding surface.

Claim 28 (original): A method of pre-conditioning an insert as defined in claim 27, wherein the insert has a curvature at least 10% shallower than the average curvature of the molding surface.

Claims 29-35 (canceled).